

WESTERN CAPE PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE

FRIDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2019

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY

7. Ms L J Botha to ask Ms D A Schäfer, Minister of Education:

- (1) (a) How many busses are contracted to transport learners on the West Coast on gravel roads and (b) what monitoring system does his Department use to ensure learners on these routes are collected;
- (2) whether cases of learners who have not been collected by contracted service providers have been reported; if so, what are the relevant details?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION

7. (1) (a) 77 vehicles are used on gravel roads to transport learners in the West Coast.
 - (b) Contractors are not paid unless the principal verifies on the WCE 063 that the learners were indeed transported on the days as claimed for by the contractor. Regular spot checks are executed by the district office and the school keeps an attendance register (WCE 062) that accompanies the contractor's monthly claim.
- (2) We had two cases where the contractors failed to collect the learners, both in the Citrusdal area - the Warmbad route and the Elandskloof route - at the beginning of the third quarter 2019.

In both cases the contractor did not inform the school nor the district office that he was experiencing trouble with his vehicles.

Case 1

Route: WCE 368 /Warmbadroete

Area: Citrusdal

Schools: Cederberg Academy; Citrusdal Primary School

Contractor: Mr Rezandt

Total learners: 97

As soon as it was reported, the contractor was contacted telephonically to ascertain why he had not transported the learners. He informed us that he had had mechanical problems with his vehicles.

The contractor was reminded of his contract with the WCED. Article 5 subsection 5.6 states that:

If it is found at any time during the contract period that any of the buses are not licensed, roadworthy, and/or unsuitable, the Contractor shall immediately at his own expense arrange for alternative licensed and roadworthy buses to transport the learners and inform the Principal/s accordingly.

The contractor indicated that he was not able to adhere to the prescripts of his contract.

He was also reminded of Article 5 subsection 5.7 that explains that:

"in the event of failure by the contractor to provide licensed and roadworthy vehicles the WCED reserves the right to itself to arrange immediately for alternative transport and to recover the cost thereof from the contractor."

The procurement procedures were followed and a new contractor was appointed to transport the learners.

The original contractor has, in the meantime, fixed his vehicles and is back on the road transporting the learners.

Case 2

Route: WCE 389 /Elandskloofroete

Area: Citrusdal

Schools: Cederberg Academy; Citrusdal Primary School

Contractor: Mr Rezandt

Total learners: 108

As soon as it was reported, the contractor was contacted telephonically to ascertain why he had not transported the learners. He informed us that he had had mechanical problems with his vehicles.

The contractor was similarly reminded of his contract with the WCED and article 5 subsection 5.6 and 5.7.

The contractor indicated that he was not able to adhere to the prescripts of his contract.

The procurement procedures were followed and a new contractor was appointed to transport the learners. The original contractor has, since then, indicated that he is not able to transport the learner for the rest of his term.



MINISTER OF EDUCATION

DATE: 21/10/2019,

WES-KAAPSE PROVINSIALE WETGEWER

FRIDAY, 13 SEPTEMBER 2019

VRAAG VIR SKRIFTELIKE BEANTWOORDING

***7. Me L J Botha vra me D A Schäfer, Minister van Onderwys:**

- (1) (a) Hoeveel busse gekontrakteer word om leerders aan die Weskus op grondpaaie te vervoer en (b) watter moniteringstelsel sy departement gebruik om toe te sien dat leerders op hierdie roetes opgelaai word;
- (2) of gevalle waar leerders nie deur gekontrakteerde diensverskaffers opgelaai is nie, aangemeld is; so ja, wat die tersaaklike besonderhede is?

Antwoord

Die MINISTER VAN ONDERWYS

MINISTER VAN ONDERWYS

DATUM: